

Appln. No. 09/528,254  
Amendment dated September 10, 2004  
Reply to Office Action mailed May 10, 2004

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims (deleted text being struck through and added text being underlined):

1           1. (Currently Amended) An information system under affective  
2 control, comprising:  
3           an application program with which a user is actively engaged;  
4           means for determining the apparent affective state of the user;  
5 and  
6           means for changing the ~~operation~~ output of the application  
7 program responsive to the apparent affective state of the user.

1           2. (Currently Amended) An information system under affective  
2 control as in claim 1, wherein said means for determining the  
3 apparent affective state of the user comprises a means responsive to  
4 ~~at least one of user autonomic indicators and the facial expressions~~  
5 of the user.

1           3. (Original) An information system under affective control as  
2 in claim 1, wherein said application program comprises means of  
3 user input.

1           4. (Currently Amended) An information system under affective  
2 control as in claim 3, wherein said means for determining the  
3 apparent affective state of the user comprises a means responsive to  
4 ~~at least one of user input characteristics and input content of said~~  
5 user input.

1           5. (Original) An information system under affective control as  
2 in claim 3, wherein said user input is text.

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1           6. (Currently Amended) An information system under affective  
2 control as in claim 5, wherein said means for changing the operation  
3 of the application program comprises means for ~~marking~~ changing  
4 the appearance of text input by the user if the apparent affective  
5 state of the user indicates that ~~the text input~~ output by the ~~user~~  
6 application program should be marked.

1           7. (Original) An information system under affective control as  
2 in claim 1, wherein said application program is a program for  
3 transmission to others of text composed by the user.

8. (Cancelled)

1           9. (Currently Amended) A method of processing text  
2 indicating the emotional state of the writer at the time of writing,  
3 comprising the steps of:  
4           (a) accepting text input from the writer;  
5           (b) determining the apparent emotional state of the writer;  
6           (c) marking the appearance of at least a portion of the text  
7 accepted from the writer if the apparent emotional state of the  
8 writer indicates that the text should be marked; and  
9           (d) outputting marked text, thereby indicating the apparent  
10 emotional state of the writer.

1           10. (Original) The method of processing text as set forth in  
2 claim 9, wherein said step of determining the apparent emotional  
3 state of the writer is performed by monitoring at least one of the  
4 writer's text input characteristics, text content, writer autonomic  
5 indicators and the facial expressions of the writer.

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1           11. (Original) The method of processing text as set forth in  
2 claim 9, wherein said step of accepting text input from the writer  
3 comprises receiving text manually input by the writer into a text  
4 input device and said step of determining the apparent emotional  
5 state of the writer is performed at least in part by determining the  
6 force used by the writer in manually inputting text into the input  
7 device.

12. through 18. (Cancelled)

1           19. (Currently Amended) An information system, comprising:  
2 an application program for engaging by a user;  
3 means for monitoring factors relating to an emotional state of  
4 the user; and  
5 means for changing the operation of the application program  
6 responsive to the emotional state of the user;  
7 wherein said means for changing the operation of the  
8 application program comprises means for changing the appearance  
9 of text input by the user if the apparent affective state of the user  
10 indicates that the text input by the user should be marked.

1           20. (Previously Presented) The information system of claim  
2 19 wherein the means for monitoring the factors relating to the  
3 emotional state of the user includes means for monitoring  
4 characteristics of text inputted into the application program by the  
5 user.

21. through 22. (Cancelled)

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1        23. (Previously Presented) The information system of claim  
2        20 wherein the means for monitoring characteristics of text inputted  
3        includes means for monitoring appearance characteristics of the  
4        inputted text indicating the emotional state of the user.

1        24. (Previously Presented) The information system of claim  
2        19 wherein the means for monitoring the factors relating to the  
3        emotional state of the user includes means for monitoring  
4        characteristics of creation of a document by the text inputted by the  
5        user.

25. through 28. (Cancelled)

1        29. (Previously Presented) The information system of claim  
2        19 wherein the means for monitoring the factors relating to the  
3        emotional state of the user includes means for monitoring  
4        characteristics of the user as the user inputs text into the  
5        application program.

1        30. (Currently Amended) The information system of claim 29  
2        wherein the means for monitoring characteristics of the user  
3        includes means for monitoring a degree of force exerted by the user  
4        on a manual input device as the user inputs text.

31. (Cancelled)

1        32. (Currently Amended) An information system under  
2        affective control ~~as in claim 1~~, comprising:  
3        an application program with which a user is actively engaged;  
4        means for determining the apparent affective state of the user;  
5        and  
6        means for changing the operation of the application program

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7 responsive to the apparent affective state of the user;  
8 wherein the means for determining the apparent affective state  
9 of the user comprises a manual input device capable of measuring a  
10 degree of force applied by the user to the manual input device.

1 33. (Currently Amended) An information system under  
2 affective control as in claim 32, wherein the manual input device  
3 comprises a keyboard capable of measuring a degree of force  
4 applied by the user to a key on the keyboard.

1 34. (Currently Amended) An information system under  
2 affective control as in claim 32, wherein the manual input device  
3 comprises a computer mouse capable of measuring a degree of force  
4 applied by the user to a button on the mouse.

1 35. (Previously Presented) An information system under  
2 affective control as in claim 1, wherein the means for determining  
3 the apparent affective state of the user comprises means for  
4 analyzing aspects of speech of the user.

1 36. (Previously Presented) An information system under  
2 affective control as in claim 35, wherein the means for analyzing  
3 aspects of speech includes means for measuring the timing of  
4 utterance of the voice of the user.

1 37. (Previously Presented) An information system under  
2 affective control as in claim 35, wherein the means for analyzing  
3 aspects of speech includes means for measuring the quality of the  
4 voice of the user.

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1           38. (Previously Presented) An information system under  
2 affective control as in claim 35, wherein the means for analyzing  
3 aspects of speech includes means for measuring the utterance pitch  
4 contour of the voice of the user.

1           39. (Previously Presented) An information system under  
2 affective control as in claim 1, wherein the means for determining  
3 the apparent affective state of the user comprises means for  
4 measuring autonomic responses of the user.

1           40. (Previously Presented) An information system under  
2 affective control as in claim 39, wherein the means for measuring  
3 autonomic responses of the user comprises means for measuring  
4 characteristics of the skin of the user.

1           41. (Previously Presented) An information system under  
2 affective control as in claim 39, wherein the means for measuring  
3 autonomic responses of the user comprises means for measuring  
4 characteristics of the eye of the user.

1           42. (Previously Presented) An information system under  
2 affective control as in claim 41, wherein the means for measuring  
3 characteristics of the eye of the user measures dilation of the eye of  
4 the user.

1           43. (Previously Presented) An information system under  
2 affective control as in claim 41, wherein the means for measuring  
3 characteristics of the eye of the user measures a rate at which the  
4 user blinks the eye.

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1           44. (Previously Presented) An information system under  
2     affective control as in claim 1, wherein the means for determining  
3     the apparent affective state of the user comprises means for  
4     analyzing facial expressions of the user.

1           45. (Previously Presented) An information system under  
2     affective control as in claim 44, wherein the means for analyzing  
3     facial expressions of the user comprises a video camera.

1           46. (Previously Presented) An information system under  
2     affective control as in claim 1, wherein the means for determining  
3     the apparent affective state of the user comprises means for  
4     analyzing gestures of the user.

1           47. (Previously Presented) An information system under  
2     affective control as in claim 1, wherein the means for determining  
3     the apparent affective state of the user comprises means for  
4     detecting marking by the user of text entered by the user.